

ERIE COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2013

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Commission Vice-Chair, Tom Wellington, at 6:13 p.m. on January 28, 2013. The following Commission members were in attendance: Tom Wellington, Amy Danzer, and Ebony Davis. The following Commission staff members were also present: Charlotte Scalise and Heidi Meyer. The following Commission members were absent: Colleen Loll-Illig (excused), Judy Jobes (excused), Bob Currie (excused) and Mary Hayes (excused).

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Since there was no quorum present, the Approval of the Minutes from the meeting held on November 26, 2012 was tabled until the February meeting.

III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT: There was no Report in the absence of Executive Director, Joseph Aguglia.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. OVERVIEW OF ERIE REGIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CONSORTIUM: Charlotte Scalise reported that she attended a meeting of the Consortium at the Ambassador today. The local colleges, who are members of the Consortium, presented information regarding working together to train and educate those in the community who lack such due to there being no Community College in the area.

B. OVERVIEW OF ERIE TOGETHER: Charlotte Scalise and Heidi Meyer have been attending the meetings of the Erie Together group. The "Balancing Workforce and Economic Development" work group has finally found the discrimination report and is now acknowledging discrimination as a barrier to employment in Erie County.

C. HRC'S HOUSING SEMINAR – APRIL 17, 2013: The HRC's annual Housing Seminar will be held on April 17, 2013 in the Hirt Auditorium of the Blasco Library. Charlotte Scalise asked the Commissioners to provide any ideas as to topics and/or speakers for the seminar. Amy Danzer suggested having someone from the City speak on the changes to the city Ordinance that may affect housing (i.e. the City wants to ban absentee landlords from holding a certain number of properties within the City). Another suggestion of a "hot topic" to discuss is the bed bug problem and how to get rid of them.

D. HRC'S EMPLOYMENT SEMINAR – JUNE 27, 2013: The HRC's annual Employment Seminar will be held on June 27, 2013 in the Hemingway Room at the Ambassador on upper Peach Street. Charlotte Scalise asked the Commissioners to provide any ideas as to topics and/or speakers for the seminar. Tom Wellington suggested having the man from Pittsburgh who spoke about the Social Media two (2) years ago come back.

E. CONSUMER FAIR – MARCH 15, 2013: The PA Attorney General's annual Consumer Fair will be held on March 15, 2013 from 10:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. in the main concourse of the Millcreek Mall. HRC will have a table at the event and any Commissioners who can do so are asked to help "man" the table.

F. HOMEBUILDER'S SHOW: The Homebuilder's Association usually holds its annual show in April. HRC has, historically, manned a table at this event. Charlotte Scalise will gather more information as to the dates, times and location of this year's event so that the Commissioners can plan accordingly.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

A. DESTINATION ERIE: Charlotte Scalise will see if the organization will be doing any more "meeting in a box" research. She and Heidi Meyer will be attending meetings for four (4) of the Committees within the organization.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: No members of the public were present.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m. The next regularly scheduled Commission meeting will be held on Monday, February 25, 2013 @ 6:00 p.m. on the 14th floor of the Renaissance Centre.

Submitted by Commission Staff, Heidi Meyer.